

SPECIFICATION, TITLE, AND/OR ABSTRACT AMENDMENTS

Please amend the text of the application by entering the new or replacement paragraph(s) or section(s), or by canceling paragraph(s), as follows. In any replacement paragraph, added text is underlined and deleted text is ~~stricken through~~ or [[double bracketed]], relative to the immediate prior version.

In accordance with the Examiner's instructions, the Abstract is presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text.

ABSTRACT

A retractable barrier system comprises a support member, for example in the form of a housing (10), a spool (14) supported for rotation by the support member, a spring (34) adapted to apply a biasing load to the spool (14), and a skirt (30) arranged to deflect water away from or around the spring (34) thereby reducing the quantity of water impinging, in use, on the spring (34) and reducing corrosion thereof.